THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Disinvestment had sent a proposal to this Ministry in April, 2005, for sale of 20% equity of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and requested for the comments. This Ministry has sent its comments to the Department of Disinvestment favouring 10% disinvestment in NALCO. No final decision has been taken in this regard.

Demand for a share from the income of bauxite mining

2760. DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY;
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribals of Visakha and East Godavari agency areas have demanded a rightful share of the income to be accrued from bauxite mining;

(b) if so, the demands made by the tribals and whether Government have considered these suggestions; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to implement the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that no such demand has been made by the tribals of Visakha and East Godavari agency areas.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Central aid to destitutes

† 2761. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing full amount as additional Central aid to all those destitute beneficiaries who are of 65 years and above and getting pension; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under the Old Age Pension Scheme, Rs. 75/- per month per beneficiary is provided to the destitute aged 65 years or above. The National Old Age Pension Scheme was a component of the National Social Assistance Programme comprising of National Old Age Pension Scheme and the National Family Benefit Scheme until the scheme was transferred to the State Plan from the financial year 2002-03. After the transfer of the scheme, the States/ UTs have the requisite flexibility in the choice and implementation of the scheme. The funds for the scheme are provided as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the States by the Central Government. These funds are intended to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in providing social assistance benefits.

Misuse of Government funds by NGOs

2762. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had come to know that many NGOs, who were receiving grants, are utilizing the funds for different purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to blacklist these organizations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. 11 NGOs have been found indulging in not utilising the grant-in-aid for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. Show cause notices were issued to such NGOs seeking clarification for misutilising the funds. After due consideration of explanation received from them, further grant in aid to 8 NGOs were discontinued whereas 3 NGOs have been blacklisted.